

THE DAY BOOK

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One Cent

NEW YORK IN GRIP OF "CLEAN LINEN FAMINE"; "BIG BUSINESS" HOWLS IN PROTEST

"Joan of Arc" of 45,000 Striking Women Tells of Horrible Conditions in Laundries; Little Girl Maimed for Life—No Compensation.

New York, Jan. 3.—New York city is facing a clean linen famine today.

By tomorrow night it is estimated that 45,000 laundry workers will have obeyed the general strike order, closing down 600 steam laundries and 15,000 hand laundries in Greater New York alone.

William Armour in charge of the strike, says that if the strike be prolonged by the laundrymen, it will involve up-state and New Jersey cities as well as New York.

Steamship lines, railroad companies, hotel and restaurants are complaining bitterly of the failure of the laundries to return their soiled linens on time.

The laundries have notified several thousand householders today that no promises of speedy work could be made. They don't know when they will be able to get hte work done.

The strikers are confident. Strikebreakers cannot take their places, they say, because the claims against the laundries for

linens torn and burned by inexperienced hands would cause too great financial loss.

"I have never read Upton Sinclair's book, 'the Jungle.' If he had worked in New York laundries, he would have called them 'The Hell.'"

Margaret Hinchay has worked for more than 20 years in the hand and steam laundries of New York, and she knows the conditions. Above the ordinary intelligence, keenly observant, human above all things, this woman, who had risen to the position of forewoman, walked out with 25,000 other laundry workers, and became the "Joan of Arc" of the strike.

"I hate to see this strike come," she said today, "for I know what suffering it is going to bring to thousands of poor girls whose wages have been so meager they couldn't even make both ends meet."

"But it had to come. And we are willing to suffer because we know we are right. We are go-